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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Donald J. Merkley et al.

Application No.:

09/970,389

Filing Date:

October 2, 2001

Group Art Unit:

1791

Examiner:

Mark Halpern

Confirmation No.:

9683

For:

Method and Apparatus for Reducing Impurities in Cellulose

Fibers for Manufacture of Fiber Reinforced Cement Composite

Materials

VIA EFS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in reply to an Office Action mailed August 25, 2008. The Amendment and accompanying document provided herein are timely filed pursuant to a Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) submitted concurrently herewith.

In view of the remarks and accompanying documents, Applicants respectfully request entry of all papers.

Provided herewith and for consideration with the above-identified Application are the following:

Amendments to the Claims reflected in the Listing of Claims that begins on page 3;

Remarks that begin on page 7;

Conclusion that begins on page 10 of this paper; and

Appendix at the end of this paper that includes Exhibit A, which is an executed Declaration submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132.